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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A detailed investigation was made by the Collector of Chittoor in the Penumoor firka and the following facts have been ascertained as a result of that investigation : In the area where it was alleged that there had been starvation deaths, in the period of two months, there were three deaths, one of which was at Somireddipalle on the 31st May 1952 ; it was an accidental death of a person of sixty due to a fall from a tree. In Kannikapuram, a destitute was found dead in a sugarcane garden and the post-mortem examination revealed that death was due to asphyxia and the third case was the death of a Muslim boy of Penumoor who was suffering from chronic leprosy and this happened in the last week of May. There were no other deaths in those villages. The village officers and the villagers concerned were questioned and they all denied that there was any starvation death in the villages. Under these circumstances, I do not think that there is any necessity of having a fresh enquiry."

10–50 a.m. SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Are the Government aware that in Madanapalle, there was a case of starvation death? It was reported in the Press not only by the Communist Member of this House, who is here, but also by the Secretary of the Town Congress Committee who was present at that place when that death took place. So, Sir, in view of all those facts made on the floor of the House now and also in view of those things that have appeared in the Press, may I request the Government to see that when such inquiries are conducted by their officers, they are instructed to conduct them in the presence of those people who have made those allegations, so that the villagers may come forward and declare what actually took place without any fear or intimidation? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, there is no question of fear and intimidation. I repudiate that suggestion. As for Madanapalle, it is not covered by this question."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Madanapalle is in Chittoor district."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I know it, Sir; there was a specific allegation of starvation deaths in Penumoor firka of Chittoor district and Kadiri taluk in Anantapur district. We made the enquiry and the allegation was found to be false. Now if the hon· Member says that there was another starvation death at Madanapalle I am prepared to call for a report."

Applications for takkavi loans from the agriculturists of Anantapur district.

* 233 *Q*.—SRI K. V. VEMA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the number of applications received from the agriculturists for takkavi and subsistence loans which are now pending disposal in Anantapur district?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Seventeen thousand and ninety-one applications for takkavi loans and 19,428 applications for subsistence loans from the agriculturists of Anantapur district were pending disposal on 20th June 1952."

SRI K. V. VEMA REDDI :—" Sir, in view of the fact that there are a large number of applications for takkavi and subsistence loans still pending from Kadiri, Tadpatri and other taluks of Anantapur district, due to the shortage of personnel to deal with those applications and also due to the want of conveyance for the officers to go and inquire into those petitions, will Government consider the proposal of increasing the staff and providing conveyance for them for the quick disposal of those applications especially as it will mitigate the sufferings of the famine-stricken people?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Sir, additional special staff for inquiring into these loan applications has been employed in almost every taluk, and for the information of the hon. Member I may say that a sum of Rs. 18,98,000 and odd as takkavi loans and a sum of Rs. 18,32,000 as subsistence loans have been disbursed already."

SRI M. K. PADMAPRABHA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, how many applications have been received from the agriculturists of Malabar for takkavi loans and how much money has been disbursed to them, and particularly whether any takkavi loans have been sanctioned for the agriculturists under the Wynaad Colonization Scheme?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" The present question deals with Anantapur district and not with Malabar."

SRI E. T. KUNHAN :—" സ്വത്തുക്കൾ സെക്യൂരിററി കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഇല്ലാത്ത സാധു കൃഷിക്കാരന് 'തക്കാവി' ലോൺ കൊടുക്കുമോ. ?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :— The hon. Member asks whether takkavi loans will be given to agriculturists who have no property to give as security."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes, Sir, even without mortgage of land, applications for takkavi loans are being considered."

Election propaganda at Kakinada by the Ministers.

* 234 Q.—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the three Ministers, namely, the Minister for Rural Development, the Minister for Land Revenue, and the Minister for Harijan Welfare went to Kakinada at public expense for election propaganda in the second week of June 1952?